Message Text

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47

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02

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USIA-12 OMB-01 TRSE-00 IGA-02 AID-20 EB-11 COME-00

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PR 251650 ZJUN 73 FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8544 INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA AMEMBASSY CONAKRY AMEMBASSY FREETOWN AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN AMEMBASSY PARIS AMEMBASSY LONDON

USUN NEW YORK 290

AMEMBASSY DAR ES ALAAM

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, LI, US

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT TOBLERT RETURNS

- 1. PRESIDENT TOLBERT, ACCOMPANIED BY MRS. TOLBERT AND PARTY, RETURNED TO LIBERIA JUNE 24, 1973, AFTER A MONTH'S ABSENCE DURING WHICH HE ATTENDED OAU ANNIVERSARY MEETINGS IN ADDIS, VISITED EXTENSIVELY IN US AND PAID STATE VISIT TO HAITI.
- 2. DISPLAYING ENERGY AND ENTHUSIASM, DESPITE DEMANDING SCHEDULE OF TRIP AND SEVEN- HOUR DELAYED DEPARTURE FROM NEW YORK, HE IMMEDIATELY EMBARKED ON FIVE HOURS OF CEREMONIES, THANKSGIVING SERVICE AND RECEPTION, COMMON THEME OF WHICH WAS PORTRAYAL OF HIM AS SUCCESSFUL STATESMAN AND AMBASSADOR WHO UNHESITATINGLY GIVES FULLY OF HIMSELF IN PURSUIT OF WORLD PEACE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF HIS COUNTRY.

- 3. PRESIDENT DEVOTED MOST OF SPEECH DELIVERED DURING RECEPTION TO HIGHLIGHTS OF US VISIT. POINTS STRESSED WERE (1) BASIC THEME HE DEVELOPED IN PUBLIC PRONOUNCEMENTS ACROSS US, I. E. "POLITICAL RELEVANCE OF FAITH AND RESPONSIBILITY;")2) CLOSE HISTORIC ASSOCIATION BETWEEN LIBERIA AND US CONFIRMED AND STRENGTHENED BY MANY GESTURES OF COURTESY AND SUPPORT SHOWN BY PRESIDENT AND MRS. NIXON, NATIONAL AND LOCAL OFFICIALS; (3) BETTER AWARENESS ON PART OF AVERAGE AMERICAN OF WHERE LIBERIA IS AND WHAT THE NEW LIBERIA IS INTENT ON ACHIEVING; (4) TRIP PERMITTED HIM MANY CONTACTS WITH LEADING AMERICANS AND HAS "SOWN SEEDS" FOR NEW US PRIVATE INVESTMENTS IN LIBERIA.
- 4. AT CONCLUSION OF SPEECH, PRESIDENT TOLBART HAD MINISTER OF PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS TOWNSEND REAL LETTER FROM PRESIDENT NIXON DATE JUNE 22 AND DELIVERED IN NEW YORK BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE. READING RECEIVED ENTHUSIASTIC APPLAUSE, PARTICULARLY AT MENTION OF \$23 MILLION PLUS AID LEVEL FOR FY73, AND STRESS ON ASSISTANCE TO INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT OF LIBERIA.
- 5. JUNE 25 LIBERIAN STAR UNDER HEADING "MORE US AID FOR LIBERIA" GIVES EXTENSIVE, IF SOMEWAHT INCORRECT, COVERAGE TO LETTER. GAMON

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^{***} Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

^{***} Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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To: ABIDJAN

ADDIS ABABA CONAKRY FREETOWN LONDON **PARIS**

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